

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-03 SCCT-01 DODE-00

EB-03 AID-10 DRC-01 OC-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /066 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0629

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3526

LIMDIS

FOR DICKMAN, NEA/ARP, FROM PAGANELLI, AMEMBASSY DOHA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, QA, US

SUBJECT: BRIEFING FOR AMIR OF QATAR ON CURRENT U.S.

THINKING ON MID-EAST SETTLEMENT

1. I EXPECT TO DEPART DOHA FOR WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS ON SEPT 1. BEFORE LEAVING I AM PLANNING TO HAVE MY FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING WITH SHAYKH KHALIFA, AND WOULD LIKE TO BRIEF HIM ON CURRENT U.S. THINKING ABOUT NEXT STEPS IN MID EAST SETTLEMENT PROCESS IN LIGHT OF RECENT VISITS TO WASHINGTON OF ALLON, FAHMI, KING HUSSEIN, AND SCHEDULED VISIT OF KHADDAM LATER THIS WEEK.

2. KHALIFA HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A TRIP WHICH INCLUDED STATE VISITS TO SYRIA, WHERE HE ALSO MET WITH ARAFAT, JORDAN AND EGYPT. I AM TOLD THAT HE KEEPS HIMSELF WELLINFORMED AND I INTEND TO SOLICIT HIS VIEWS ON THE AREA SITUATION.

3. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO HIM WOULD BE OUT THOUGHTS ON THE ROLE OF THE PALESTINIANS AND JORDAN-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT. IN ADDITION, THERE WERE NEWS REPORTS AUGUST 17 FROM CAIRO THAT SECRETARY PLANNING SEPTEMBER VISIT TO AREA. WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN
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ASKED ABOUT THIS, AND WOULD LIKE A READING ON ACCURACY OF STORY.

CLOSER TO HOME, I COULD USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE HIM OUR VIEWS ON THE OIL SITUATION PARTICULARLY PRICES.

4. THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE OF ASSURANCE RE THE CONTINUITY OF OUR MID EAST POLICY UNDER PRESIDENT FORD HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO SAHYKH KHALIFA BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND HE HAS EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION. HOWEVER, U.S. ACTIONS WILL BE MORE CLOSELY WATCHED THAN EVER; THEREFORE ANY POLICY INSIGHTS WE CAN PROVIDE SUCH FRIENDS AS KHALIFA, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE ON THE PERIPHERY, COULD CONTRIBUTE TO FURTHERING OUR GENERAL AREA AIMS, AS WELL AS PROVING OUT OUR DECLARED INTEREST IN THE GULF AND ITS LEADERS. THE AMIR'S FINANCIAL AID AND RECOGNIZED GOOD SENSE GIVE HIM A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF INFLUENCE WITH THE /CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES," PARTICULARLY SYRIA; WE WILL NOT BE WASTING OUR TIME CONVEYING TO HIM IN SOME DEPTH OUR POLICY THOUGHTS.

5. I PLAN TO USE THIS BRIEFING AND SUBSEQUENT ONES TO ESTABLISH A REGULAR PATTERN OF CONTACT WITH THE AMIR. ALTHOUGH I WILL USE POLITICAL AFFAIRS AS AN ENTREE, ACCESS WILL ALSO PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS WHICH ARE OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE TO THIS EMBASSY. AT PRESENT, THE UK AMBASSADOR IS THE ONLY DIPLOMAT HERE WHO SEES THE AMIR ON A REGULAR BASIS. CONTINUING BRITISH COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC DOMINANCE HERE OWES MUCH TO THESE REGULAR SESSIONS. I WILL TRY FOR EQUAL TIME, BUT MUST HAVE SOMETHING WORTHWHILE TO OFFER, SINCE THE AMIR IS A VERY BUSY MAN.

6. OUR PRESENT LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IS A SEVERE HANDICAP. I WILL BE ABLE TO FASHION MY OWN BRIEFING MATERIALS FROM THE REGULAR FLOW OF CLASSIFIED TRAFFIC, OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, ETC., WHEN WE HAVE OUR OWN FACILITIES. AT PRESENT, WE HAVE A CLASSIFIED POUCH EVERY TWO WEEKS, WITH AN OCCASIONAL NON-PROFESSIONAL COURIER RUN; THEREFORE I NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE ON THIS MATTER FOR THE TIME BEING. PLEASE CABLE WHATEVER YOU CAN GIVE ME TO KUWAIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH INSTRUCTIONS THAT EMBASSY KUWAIT SHOULD NOTIFY US BY PHONE WHEN THE BRIEFING MATERIAL IS RECEIVED. WE WILL THEN ARRANGE FOR A NON-PROFESSIONAL COURIER TO BRING THE MATERIAL TO DOHA. I AM PLANNING TO REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE AMIR DURING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 25, AND WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR REPLY AS EARLY IN THAT WEEK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PALESTINIANS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PEACE PLANS, LIMITATIONS OF HOSTILITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT03526
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740231-0795
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740827/aaaaawso.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING FOR AMIR OF QATAR ON CURRENT U.S. THINKING ON MID-EAST SETTLEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, XF, QA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005